

## **Report of the Board of Health**

The Board of Health is charged with protecting the public health and safety of the citizens of Randolph. Some important Board of Health functions include: Food Inspection; Swimming Pools, Recreational Camps; Housing; Trash; Hazardous Waste; Communicable Disease Control and Public Health Nuisance Control. The Infectious Disease Committee was formed to help with public health emergencies. Our town-wide MRC (Medical Reserve Corps) for Public Health Emergency volunteers assisted with flu clinics. The Town is still actively seeking volunteers in this area. We have regionalized the MRC with surrounding towns including Holbrook, Stoughton and Avon (SHAR). If interested, please contact the **Holbrook EMA @ (781)-630-2201**. The following is a summary of the functions the BOH has performed throughout the year. In April, 2013 the Town of Randolph introduced a new computer software program called SeeClickFix to select Town Offices. This has become a successful program offering greater complaint control tracking and efficiencies. Between Code Enforcement and the Board of Health approximately 1400 calls were logged for the year.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION**

**REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL:** Republic waste continues to be the Refuse Collection contractor for the Town of Randolph. SEMASS/Covanta, Rochester, MA is used for the disposal of the Town's refuse and curbside recycling program. The Town disposed of approximately 9,912.00 tons of solid waste and 1,134 tons in recyclables (plastic, glass, cardboard) plus additional tonnage from businesses, Abitibi paper- retriever, CRT waste, electronic waste, C & D, tires, appliances, et al.

**RECYCLING/CURBSIDE RECYCLING PROGRAMS:** The town's recycling continues to increase along with local business and charity containers. The recyclables are picked up every other week on residents' regular trash days. In November 2013 the Town of Randolph introduced **Single Stream Recycling** and Republic Services delivered a 95 gal. recycling bin to each household to begin the program. No more separating your plastics, glass and aluminum from paper and cardboard products. All recycling can be placed in this container and there is no more separating. Please be advised recycling is still every other week on your scheduled pickup day. Residents may call the "Recycling Hotline" at 1 (781) 289-0500 with any questions or visit our website @ [www.randolphboardofhealth.com](http://www.randolphboardofhealth.com). The Board of Health continues to work diligently to improve the solid waste program and pursue and procure any available grant monies for recycling. The BOH yard waste and CRT programs co-exist, and collection of these items can now be brought to the Randolph DPW yard (6 Carlino Way), which is located directly behind the Joseph Zapustas Ice Skating Rink

Year 2013 marked Randolph's seventeenth Annual Household Hazardous Waste Day. The event, also involving the Town of Avon, was a success, with approximately 300 cars attending and disposing of large amounts of oil, paint, tires, batteries and adhesives. The BOH continues to offer the medication take back program, which is very successful in keeping these hazardous materials out of the waste stream and homes.

**PUBLIC HEALTH COMPLAINTS:** Numerous complaints were received for various health nuisances and hazards which were investigated and resolved during the year. These are recorded and placed on file.

**SWIMMING POOLS:** 16 permits, for public, semi-public and private pools were issued.

**PUBLIC, SEMI-PUBLIC POOL INSPECTIONS:** The State mandates that public/semi-public pools be inspected and brought up to code prior to issuance of an annual license. This duty falls to the local Board of Health and, as such, over 20 inspections and re-inspections of public and semi-public pools were made by this office prior to issuing annual permits.

**FOOD/LTD. FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS:** 85 permits were issued to restaurants and other food stores of operations serving food and/or drink for consumption on the premises. Some Inspections of establishments have been carried out in excess of the two required by State Code.

**FROZEN DESSERT ESTABLISHMENTS:** 9 permits were issued. Inspections occur on a regular basis.

**MOBILE FOOD & TEMPORARY FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS:** 3 permits were issued and are inspected on a regular basis.

**RETAIL & LIMITED RETAIL FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS:** 60 permits were issued to retail & limited retail food establishments. All are being inspected on a regular basis.

**CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS:** 7 permits were issued to operate a catering establishment, which are inspected at regular intervals.

**WHOLESALE/MANUFACTURING FACILITIES:** 2 permits were issued to Wholesale/Manufacturing facilities, which are inspected on a yearly basis.

**HEALTH CLUB:** 2 Permits were issued to Health Clubs with an annual inspection conducted.

COLLECTION & DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE/GREASE: 7 permit(s) were issued.

REMOVAL, TRANSPORT, DISPOSE OF GARBAGE/OFFAL: 21 permits were issued.

TOBACCO PERMITS: 45 permits were issued for the sale of tobacco products.

SUNTANNING FACILITIES: 3 permits were issued and facilities inspected.

VAPOR BATHS: 1 license was issued.

#### REVENUE PRODUCED

Permits, Licenses & Fines (Including appliances; CRT's, Stickers & tonnage reimbursement)	\$51,540.00
Corkin Bldg. Rental	2,400.00
Immunization Revolving	6,222.19
Abandoned Property Fees	89,909.12
Grants	<u>99,786.37**</u>
 TOTAL	 \$249,857.68

\*\* We were able to apply for and receive: a Community Health Network Alliance (CHNA 20) grant in the amount of \$3,500; an Mass Association of Health Boards grant for \$500.00 and Mass. DEP 80 hrs. in-kind technical assistance; a HomeCorp Community Restoration grant in the amount of \$80,000.00 from the Attorney General's Office; a Mass. Emergency management Agency (MEMA) grant of \$8,300.00 and a Department of Public Health local public health immunization grant of \$500.00 plus Medical Care and Flu reimbursements totaling \$11,486.37.

#### PERSONNEL MATTERS

Mark Kittredge, Thomas J. Fisher, Dr. David Kaplan, PHD, R.S., CHO; Esther Muhammad, RN and Nelly Janga were re-appointed Board members of the Randolph Board of Health. John McVeigh remains the Commissioner of Public Health. The Board members were also appointed as the new MGL 40U Hearings Officers.

We wish to thank our office staff, Priscilla MacDougall, part-timer, Kim Fontaine, and Ryan Egan, who is our interim Recycling Coordinator, for all their assistance in the day-to-day operation of the office and for their service. Our Public Health Nurse, Cheryl Cates, MSN, RN continues to work well with her patients and the community and has established many relationships and programs to assist the Randolph citizenry.

Richard Crowley and Cheryl Witherspoon continue as Code Enforcement officers whom we share with the Building Department. They are also deputized as Health Agents for the Town of Randolph. Both are a welcome asset and work well with both the Board of Health and Building Department.

Lastly, we wish to thank the Board of Health Members for their tireless efforts toward keeping the Town and its residents in a safe and healthy environment and to Mr. David Murphy, Town Manager, who oversees the day-to-day operations of the Town.

#### WIC NUTRITION PROGRAM

The WIC program is located in the Corkin Building, 19 North Main Street and continues to offer the Town of Randolph residents its services and nutrition programs for a total of 980 women, infants and children.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kittredge, Chairman  
Thomas J. Fisher, Vice Chairman  
Dr. David Kaplan, CHO RS Member  
Esther Muhammad, RN, Member  
Nelly Janga ,BS, Member  
John P. McVeigh, MBA, CHO, R.S.,  
Commissioner of Public Health/Agent

## ***PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING***

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Public Health Nursing section of the Board of Health (BOH) continues to be a busy one. The nurse works with the Regional Opioid Overdose Reduction Coalition as the designated Randolph representative addressing opioid overdoses in Quincy, Braintree, Weymouth and Randolph. The Randolph Coalition began in 2013 and has begun collecting Randolph data to determine how we will educate Randolph residents about this emerging issue. Additionally, a portable sink was purchased for the Public Health Nurse office through a \$500.00 local health grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The BOH Public Health Nurse continues to work with local universities and colleges providing nursing and public health intern preceptorships.

### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE**

All reportable communicable diseases are investigated by the Public Health Nurse. Confidential reports are completed and kept at the Randolph Board of Health as well as submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Infectious disease surveillance is done electronically. The following communicable diseases were reported in Randolph in 2013. There were a total of 301 cases reported with 205 confirmed.

	Reported	Confirmed
Arbovirus	1	0
Campylobacteriosis	4	4
Giardiasis	3	3
Group A Streptococcus	4	0
Group B Streptococcus	5	1
Haemophilus influenzae	2	2
Hepatitis A	2	1
Hepatitis B	33	2
Hepatitis C	27	12
Hepatitis E	1	0
Influenza	43	43
Lyme	30	6
Malaria	1	1
Meningococcal Disease	1	1
Mumps	1	0
Pertussis (& other Bordetella species)	2	1
Salmonella	8	8
Shiga toxin producing organism	1	0
Shigellosis	1	1
Streptococcus pneumoniae	7	7
TB-Active	2	2
TB-LTBI	117	102
Toxoplasmosis	2	0
Varicella	3	0
West Nile Infection	1	0

### **IMMUNIZATIONS AND BIOLOGICAL WASTE PROGRAM**

Selected vaccines are provided free of charge to the Randolph BOH from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). The Biological Waste Program continues to provide the community with a safe location to dispose of needles. In 2013, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health provided a small allotment of shingles vaccine for those elders in Randolph who did not have Medicare D (medicine insurance) or whose co-pay was so high that they could not afford the shot.

### **INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION**

In 2013, the BOH administered over 800 flu vaccines for the 2013-2014 season. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health supplied flu vaccine for children up to 18 years of age and for adults who were uninsured or underinsured. Vaccine was purchased by the town to vaccinate those with insurance; those who were homebound or unable to come to clinics. A total of \$9,320.37 was reimbursed to the Immunization Program through collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and

UMass Worcester Medical School enabling the billing of insurance. No one was denied a vaccine due to insurance status or inability to pay. The BOH is very grateful to have had assistance from the Randolph Women's Club and the SHAR Medical Reserve Corps supporting immunization clinics.

#### **KEEP-WELL CLINICS**

Keep-Well Clinics are blood pressure screenings for Randolph residents who are typically 65 and older. There were 42 blood pressure clinics, serving 662 people.

#### **OFFICE AND HOME VISITS**

Randolph residents come to the BOH for a variety of reasons including allergy injections, Vitamin B12 injections, injectable medication administration, blood pressure monitoring, or TB skin testing. This year 1,044 people obtained services from the Randolph BOH. This number also includes individuals requiring immunizations. There were 80 home visits made this past year, for people who do not qualify for Visiting Nurse services but are homebound or have had active tuberculosis.

#### **OTHER PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

The PHN provides representation from Randolph to several health and human services committees. Additionally, in 2013, the BOH initiated the Randolph Walking Group, an informal opportunity to increase activity through use of the High School track. The Randolph Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition began under the direction of the PHN. A steering committee of community members and personnel has been formed. The PHN participated in the Randolph Health Fair conducted in September as well as the Springs of Living Water Health Fair in October. The BOH continues to collaborate with Manet Community Health Center to assist families apply for health insurance at the BOH office monthly.

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT COLLABORATION**

The collaboration with the Fire Department continued this year for the annual bladder cancer and tuberculosis screenings. Influenza vaccine clinics were offered at the Fire Department for all fire fighters. The BOH and the Fire Department continue to collaborate regarding emergency preparedness, in particular vulnerable residents who will need additional help.

#### **MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS COLLABORATION – SHAR MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS**

The SHAR Medical Reserve Corps provided many hours of service in 2013 to support the nursing and community services of Randolph. Deployments included flu clinics, Mass Care Shelter for the Blizzard of 2013, William Pasquantonio 5K Road Race as well as planning for emergency preparedness exercises and drills were tremendous assets to the community. MRC leadership continues to be involved in other program development of community initiatives. Many thanks go to the volunteers who supported the BOH in 2013. Over 700 volunteer hours were provided in 2013. This collaboration provides tremendous savings in personnel to the town.

#### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INITIATIVE**

The BOH Public Health Nurse led the community in preparing for public health emergencies. During the Blizzard of 2013, a Mass Care Shelter was opened for residents with prolonged power outages. In August, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) awarded Randolph an \$8,300 grant to address current planning efforts, including review of plans and provision of training of responding agencies during large scale emergencies. Emergency Preparedness Training for personnel was facilitated through online and face to face classes.